MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE COLLEGE

THE CHART

REAL ROCK

Find out about the new upgrade of a local rock radio station. *Page 6*

ROLLIN' OVER ROLLA

Check out the results of Feb. 26's basketball matchup between Southern and Rolla. *Page 10*

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2003 WWW.THECHARTONLINE.COM VOLUME NO. 63, ISSUE NO. 18

Winter weather causes class cancellations

BY JERRY MANTER
Managing Editor

As Norah Jones overwhelmed the world Feb. 23 with her eight Grammy awards, Missouri Southern students received even better news.

No classes.

"Thank god," said Erica Brandon, junior education major.

On Feb. 23, Joplin and the surrounding areas received anywhere from 10 inches to a foot of snow.

Brandon believed the College made the right choice to close down Feb. 24 and 25. She was upset, however, last semester when a snowstorm hit and the campus remained open.

"They didn't close the last time," Brandon said. "It was horrible."

Dustin Storm, junior pre-med major, drove from Webb City the morning of Feb. 25 to find an empty parking lot. He was upset there wasn't more advance warning for the day's closure.

"I came on Tuesday morning and the doors were locked," Storm said. "They need to figure out what they're going to do in advance."

College President Julio León made the final decision.

"On Monday, we had so much snow," León said. "It was going to be treacherous."

Maintenance crews began working on the snow removal at 8 a.m. Feb. 24 and had everything cleared by the end of the day. The College was preparing to re-open for classes on Feb. 25.

However, when temperatures dropped to the mid-teens early in the morning, sidewalks and bridges froze, making conditions too risky.

"Although it was clear, it was still too dangerous on campus," León said.

Local television stations began scrolling Southern's first decision to close the evening before, but Tuesday's closure didn't circulate throughout the media until 6 a.m. on Feb. 25.

Bob Harrington, physical plant director, said his crew usually will begin removing snow at 4 a.m. Because the snowfall occurred on Sunday, and there was no doubt about a closure, he let his crew arrive for work at 8 a.m.

Two of the maintenance plows broke down, but the staff was still able to finish the job.

"They did a good job with what we had," Harrington said. "Our equipment is in rough shape."

He said one of the biggest challenges the crew faces each snowstorm is removing the snow before cars begin to fill the campus.

"We do the best we can," he said. "There's a whole lot of campus...it's a big job."

Graciela Meilij, senior education major, commutes 30 minutes to campus from Diamond.

"I came to school on Tuesday," Meilij said. "I wasn't the only one."

Although she didn't mind the day off from her three classes, she still believes the College could have stayed open.

"I think we could have had classes," she said. "They need to be more flexible."

Andy Tevis/The Chart

Michael Alejandro, groundskeeper, clears the entrance to Blaine Hall after the Feb. 23 snowstorm that forced the College to cancel classes two days in a row.

Jessica Firor/The Chart

Jerrod Murphy and Chad Klineline test their body compositions during the Health Fair Feb. 26 in Billingsly Student Center.

Health Fair occurs despite cold, storm

BY LANDON FRY
Staff Writer

Despite weather complications, this year's faculty/staff health fair got off to a strong start with 85 participants, said Darren Fullerton, director of campus recreation and wellness.

"Coming off from canceling yesterday and having questionable weather today, we were very pleased with that number," Fullerton said.

The fair, held Feb. 26 and 27, was open to all Missouri Southern faculty and staff. Among the services available were tests for cholesterol, blood pressure and osteoporosis.

"Blood draws for cholesterol were probably the most popular," Fullerton said. "After that, I would say EKG and osteoporosis tests were also very popular."

There were a few difficulties in setting up this year's fair due to the weather, Fullerton said. The staff normally sets up the day before, so it was trying to finish up on the morning of Feb. 25 before classes were canceled. The Freemen Screen Team, which ran the medical tests, also had trouble making it to the fair.

On average, Fullerton said about 300 faculty and staff members participate in the health fair.

Some faculty members may be a little squeamish around needles, said Christy Phillips, student services secretary, but that didn't stop her.

"I'm about as wussy as you can get, but I survive every year," she said. "It's really not that bad."

Phillips helped run a table at the fair as well as have tests run. She said she did well on her physical fitness assessment.

The College believes if the staff is kept healthy through activities like the health fair, then its productivity will be high, Fullerton said.

This year, Freeman Health System sponsored the health

TURN TO **FAIR**, PAGE 3

Name change advances in legislature

BY VIRGINIA FAIRCHILD
State News Editor

Senators say OK, now it's time for the House to make its decision.

Members of the Senate voted on and passed Senate Bill 55, sponsored by Sen. Gary Nodler (R-Joplin), which would rename Missouri Southern State College to Missouri Southern State University-Joplin.

The name change bill proceeded through the Senate Chamber after members passed it 28 to 3 on Feb. 19. Nodler said the three senators in opposition to SB 55 all had different reasons but mainly voted against the bill to protect area institutions from "competition."

Nodler said Sen. Ken Jacob (D-Columbia) wasn't completely in support of the name change bill when it hit the Senate floor, but changed his mind and became a co-sponsor of the substitute bill following testimony heard in the chamber.

Jacob filibustered Southern's name change bill during the 2002 session after it passed the House.

Nodler said passing the name change bill was based largely on the role of the Senate majority leaders, who allowed the bill to have "substantial floor time."

Rep. Bryan Stevenson (R-Joplin) said he is hoping to get Nodler's bill, which he is sponsoring on the House side, through committees and back onto the House floor without any amendments.

If the bill is amended while in the House, it must return to the Senate or go to the Conference Committee for a compromise.

House Bill 39, which is the name change bill Stevenson and other area representatives sponsored, has been combined with the other name change bills in the House.

"Some people say by uniting you gain more support, more strength," said College President Julio León, "but, also by combining, you gain more detractors."

Stevenson said the only obstacle he sees for the passing of SB 55 is the possibility that Southwest Missouri State University's name change will be attached.

"I am going to try my best to ensure that SMS doesn't kill my bill by attaching to it," Stevenson said.

Stevenson said if the Senate version goes through House committees and onto the floor without any amendments, he has the votes to pass it.

Stevenson said (if approved), "The governor has no reason not to sign it."

"We certainly are hoping that it (SB 55) will be the vehicle by which we get the name change," León said.

During the four-and-a-half hour Senate debate, the original bill received some alterations, but all will have a "positive impact on Southern," Nodler said.

One of the new aspects of the bill would allow the College to offer cooperative graduate degrees in conjunction with other institutions of higher education.

This means a Southern student, who attains a master's degree from another institution taking courses at Southern would see both institutions' names on the diploma.

Nodler said, this substitute is identical in language to SB 56, a bill the senator also introduced.

Under another addition to the bill, Southern's mission would be added to the list of institutions based on a statewide mission and governed by a Board of Governors versus a Board of Regents.

An additional member will be added, making it a seven-person board. León said current members of the Board of Regents would finish their terms.

New members could be appoint-

TURN TO **NAME**, PAGE 9

Student senators try to resolve alcohol issue

BY MICHELLE CONTY
Associate Editor

A committee has been formed to draft a resolution making all campus rules and regulations that pertain to students apply to guests, visitors, faculty, staff and administration.

Student senator's are arguing a double standard is in place pertaining to alcohol on campus during Missouri Southern Foundation benefits and faculty events.

"The only events with alcohol on campus, that I'm aware of, are the one's approved by President León," said Doug Carnahan, dean of students.

"We are drafting a blanket resolution that any rule that applies to students applies to visitors, faculty, etc.," said Jacob Brower, senior senator.

Once the committee has drafted the resolution, it plans to take it to the Faculty Senate for approval and recommendations.

"It's an issue of respect to let them know you value their opinion," said Zack Odem, Student Senate president.

Trent Dobrauc, senior senator and chairman of the alcohol committee, has plans to talk to Dr. Paul Teverow, Faculty Senate president, within the next week to get his

TURN TO **ALCOHOL**, PAGE 3

INSIDE THIS EDITION

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WEEKEND OUTLOOK

SATURDAY
Mostly Cloudy
High: 48
Low: 28

SUNDAY
Mostly Cloudy
High: 51
Low: 31

For complete weather, turn to Page 2

ONLINE

Log on to www.thechartonline.com to take this week's poll question: What did you do during the days off due to bad weather?

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Senate heads to Capitol Hill

BY MICHELLE CONTY
Associate Editor

One organization asked Student Senate for funding this week.

The Student Nurses Association asked for reimbursement of $1,000 for a trip the group took Feb. 17-18 to Jefferson City. The students went to take part in Nurse Advocacy Day.

"We went to Jefferson City to learn about the legislative process and meet some of our legislatures," said Chuck Hunt, senior nursing major and president of the Student Nurses Association.

"It was for nurses at the lowest level [in their careers]," he said. "how they could get involved in the legislative process to change laws and be advocates for patients and the nursing profession."

Sixteen of the 31 student members attended the conference.

Andrew McGowan, Senate treasurer, recommended the maximum amount to be allocated to a club or organization, $1,000 leaving Senate a balance of $15,700.

The motion to allocate passed unanimously.

Sixteen senators attended the annual trip on Feb. 18-19 to Jefferson City.

While at the Capitol, senators toured the Capitol building, met with legislatures and toured the state prison.

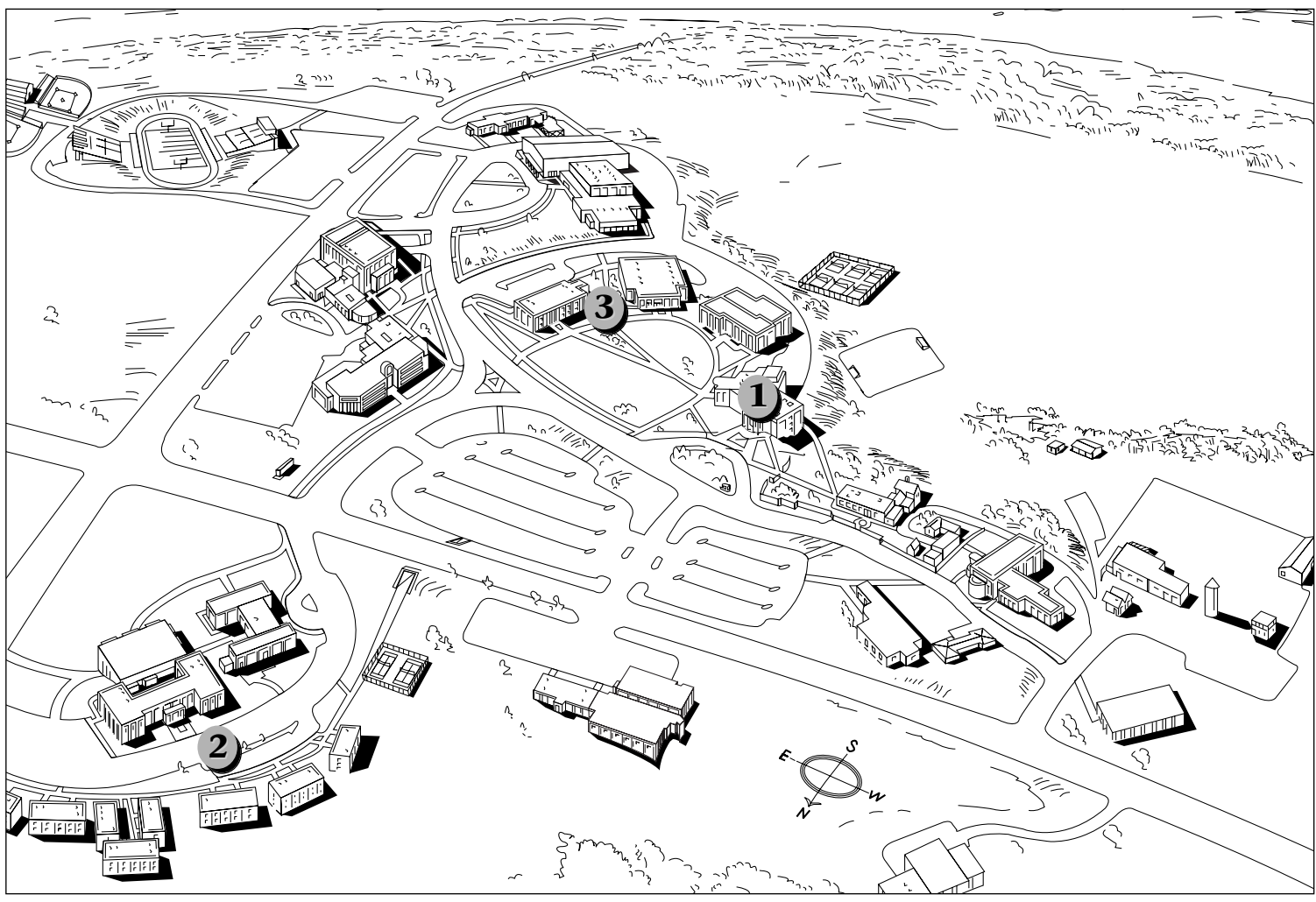
"We discussed the state budget and the College gaining university status with eight of our local representatives and Sen. Gary Nodler," said Zack Odem, Senate president.

"The legislatures wanted everyone to understand, if there are withholdings or cuts, it's because of the governor's discretion. The assembly doesn't have anything to do with it."

Senators were scheduled to meet with Rep. Bryan Stevenson. However, he was debating his bill (concerning Southern attaining university status) in committee at the time and was unable to meet with them.

"We discussed why higher education has been an easy target for budget cuts," Odem said. "The reason why is simply because the constitution requires states to provide education through high school but not to state-funded colleges or universities. Also, you can raise tuition at a college but a high school doesn't have that liberty."

"Local colleges and universities are necessary to the region and economy," he said.



Injuries plague snow-covered campus

1 Injured Person

02/19/2003

3:50 p.m.

A security officer was dispatched to Billingsly Student Center in reference to an injured person. Upon arrival, the officer found a Southern employee, who had fallen from the scaffolding he was working on. The scaffolding was estimated to be five feet from the ground.

The worker landed on his right side, injuring his ribs. He was transported to St. John's Regional Medical Center.

2 Theft

02/19/2003

3:55 p.m.

Security was contacted in regard to the theft of a CD player. A student notified that someone had broken out the vinyl window of his soft-top car and stolen the CD player.

The student reported he had parked his car at approximately 9 p.m. the previous day, and discovered the theft after 3 p.m. the next day.

Joplin Police Department was contacted and reported to the scene to take a report.

3 Injured Person

02/26/2003

1:52 p.m.

A student contacted the security office, reporting that she had fallen on the ice, twisting her right ankle. She told security the fall had occurred on the sidewalk that runs between Hearnes Hall and Spiva Library. She went to the College nurse for treatment.

Accessweather.com Local Weather Report — Feb. 28, 2003

Joplin's 7-Day Forecast

Friday — Mostly Cloudy — High: 42 Low: 27

Saturday — Mostly Cloudy — High: 48 Low: 28

Sunday — Mostly Cloudy — High: 51 Low: 31

Monday — Partly Cloudy — High: 56 Low: 39

Tuesday — Partly Cloudy — High: 59 Low: 36

Wednesday — Partly Cloudy — High: 56 Low: 32

Thursday — Partly Cloudy — High: 58 Low: 33

Joplin's Almanac Last Week

Day	High	Low	Normals	Precip*
Monday	39	24	50/29	0.00"
Tuesday	50	30	50/30	0.58"
Wednesday	51	30	50/30	0.24"
Thursday	54	24	51/30	0.00"
Friday	55	35	51/31	Trace
Saturday	48	31	51/31	0.13"
Sunday	33	20	52/31	0.16"

Precipitation for the week .....1.11"
Normal precipitation for the week .....0.61"
Departure from normal for the week .+0.50"
Precipitation for the year .....2.79"
Normal precipitation year to date .....3.62"
Departure from normal for the year ...-0.83"
* Precipitation includes snow converted to rainfall

Campus Recreational Forecast

An upper level area of low pressure will be in control of the weather across the vicinity today through this weekend. Mostly cloudy skies will be the rule with a very small chance of precipitation and below normal temperatures for this time of year. High pressure will take command of the weather across the campus to begin next week. Partly cloudy skies are expected and this will be your best chance to schedule recreational activities. High temperatures will top out in the 40s and 50s. Low temperatures will range from the upper 20s to near 40 degrees.

Joplin's Sun/Moon Chart This Week

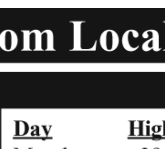
New 3/2 — First 3/11 — Full 3/18 — Last 3/24

Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
Fri	6:51 a.m.	6:10 p.m.	5:50 a.m.	3:49 p.m.
Sat	6:50 a.m.	6:11 p.m.	6:27 a.m.	4:53 p.m.
Sun	6:49 a.m.	6:12 p.m.	6:59 a.m.	5:55 p.m.
Mon	6:47 a.m.	6:13 p.m.	7:26 a.m.	6:56 p.m.
Tue	6:46 a.m.	6:14 p.m.	7:51 a.m.	7:54 p.m.
Wed	6:44 a.m.	6:15 p.m.	8:15 a.m.	8:51 p.m.
Thu	6:43 a.m.	6:16 p.m.	8:38 a.m.	9:48 p.m.

Weather History

Feb. 27, 1969 - A record snowstorm in Maine came to an end. Two to four feet of snow buried southern and central Maine, with a state record of 57 inches reported at West Forks. Drifts covered many single story homes and the weight of the snow collapsed many roofs.

National Weather Summary This Week



An area of low pressure with a trailing cold front will slide through the Great Lakes region and into the New England states this weekend. This system will generate scattered snow showers under mostly cloudy skies. A weak area of low pressure is scheduled to develop along the Gulf Coast as we begin next week. This low pressure center will provide a good chance of showers and a few thunderstorms along with breezy conditions. Low pressure will move through the northern Rockies early next week as well. A few snow showers will be produced as the area of low pressure quickly dives toward the southern Plains. By the middle of next week, a plume of moisture will develop ahead of this low pressure center.

All forecasts, data and graphics provided by Accessweather.com, Inc. © 2003. All rights reserved.

Weather Trivia

How can crickets be used to determine the temperature? ?

Answer: Count the number of chirps in 14 seconds and add 40.

Tanning Index Today

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

UV Index Scale
0-2: Minimal Exposure
3-4: Low Exposure
5-6: Moderate Exposure
7-9: High Exposure
10+: Very High Exposure

Local Precipitation Log

Month	2003	2002	Normal
Jan	0.30	3.09	1.74
Feb	2.49	0.72	2.12
Mar	------	2.65	3.10
Apr	------	4.10	4.10
May	------	13.60	4.96
Jun	------	4.71	5.07
Jul	------	4.87	3.73
Aug	------	1.14	3.58
Sep	------	1.64	4.97
Oct	------	2.30	3.50
Nov	------	0.56	3.18
Dec	------	2.10	2.54
Total	**2.79**	**41.48**	**42.59**

All precipitation is in inches

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Food service looks to new company

Izumi Sogo/The Chart

Becky Blankenship, AmeriServe worker, serves breakfast to Amanda Ince, freshman elementary education major.

BY CRAIG S. JONES
Staff Writer

Those with their ear to the ground have heard the news that has been been circulating regarding the future of the food service at Missouri Southern.

"We may have a new food company," said Doug Carnahan, dean of students. "It will all happen this spring. We still have Ameriserve through the end of May."

Carnahan said the potential change was initiated by Ameriserve because the company wished to renegotiate its contract with Southern.

Carnahan said Ameriserve entered into the contract when Southern only had one cafeteria. That was before the opening of the Lion's Den in the Billingsly Student Center and the coffee shop in Spiva Library.

"Since the original arrangement was made prior to all those changes, they felt like they wanted to renegotiate what they were being paid by the College," Carnahan said.

He said the decision was made not to renegotiate, but to invite Ameriserve to terminate the contract. Southern would then request bids from various food service providers, including Ameriserve.

"That's what Ameriserve chose to do," Carnahan said. "They notified us they were terminating their contract. We only had a year left on the contract anyway. I think both parties felt like this was the right way to do this."

Carnahan said Southern has begun to request proposals

TURN TO **FOOD**, PAGE 8

FAIR:

From Page 1

fair, allowing Southern to save what annually averages to $8,000.

Free health screenings, coupled with convenience of location, are the reasons Phillips thinks the fair is beneficial to faculty and staff.

Without the health fair, Phillips said she would probably not have the screenings performed.

For the first time, a fall 2003 student health fair will offer the same tests as the faculty/staff health fair, Fullerton said. Besides the usual health information available, students will be able to get checked for everything the faculty and staff have access to.

ALCOHOL:

From Page 1

take on the resolution.

"We will tailor it for the same timeframe to go through both bodies," Dobrauc said.

"This gives us the experience of how a bicameral legislative process works."

Although the resolution is still in the planning phases, the committee plans to have it in the formal stages within the next two weeks.

Since the proposal has not been formally drafted, León said he would rather not comment on the proposal until it is complete.

"It's too early to tell; I'd have to see what they (Student Senate) are proposing," said Dr. Terri Agee, vice president for business affairs.

SOUTHERN NEWS BRIEFS

Madrigal dinner eats its way to Southern

Tickets are available through March 1 for the Madrigal Feast scheduled for 7 p.m. March 5-8 in Taylor Auditorium.

The stage of Taylor Auditorium will become the banquet hall of King Budward (A.D. 1549). The event is a benefit for the Missouri Southern music department scholarship program.

The cost is $20 and reservations may be made until March 1 by contacting the Billingsly Student Center Office, Room 102, at 625-9366, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Wesley Foundation to hold concert in March

Dave Barnes and Matt Wertz will be performing at 7 p.m., Friday, March 7 at the Wesley Foundation Center.

Doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets are $3 in advance and $5 at the door. Advance tickets are available at Great Expectations and Wesley.

Information: 782-5702

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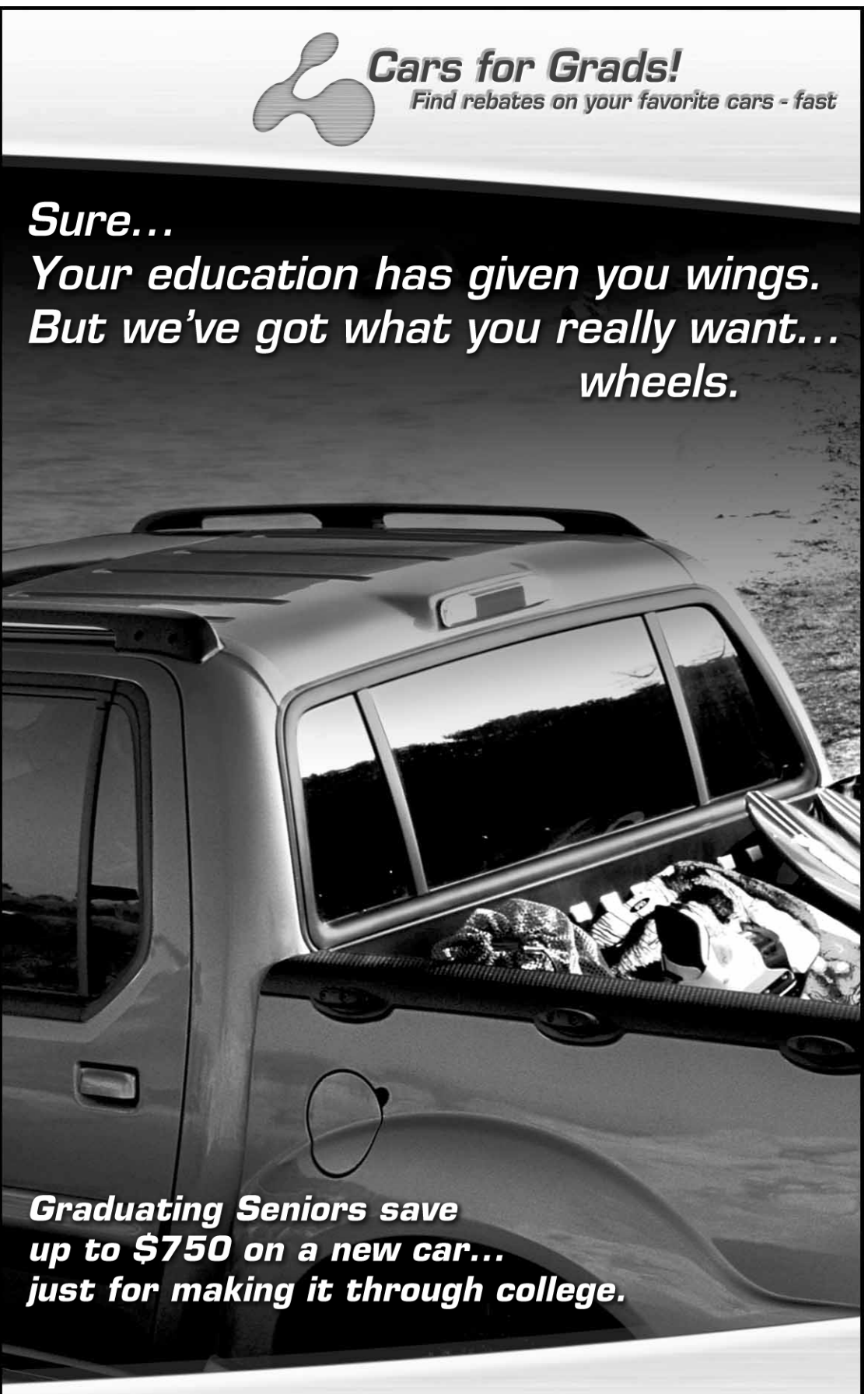

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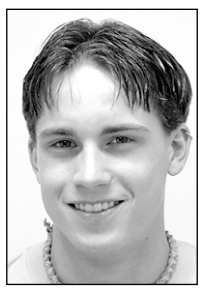
Editor's Column

Independent person handles loss alone



Josh Ray
Diversions Editor

What do you do when you lose someone you love?

Well, for the Christians, that is a simple question to answer. They turn to their god for comfort and guidance. But for those of us who do not believe in any sort of higher power, where do we turn? The answer to that, while it may seem simple (it is a one syllable word, after all), is really hard to comprehend.

We turn to us.

I am a really independent person. Whenever I have a problem, more often than not, I just do everything in my power to fix that conflict on my own. It's not easy at all. We're all human, and therefore we are all prone to err. We do it quite often.

Do you know how it feels to have the weight of all of your problems on your own shoulders? Do you know what it feels like to have nowhere else to turn but into yourself?

Many times I really wish that I could go back to Christianity. While I don't agree with the politics and belief system of the religion, as a Christian I enjoyed that feeling that there was someone or something watching over me. I enjoyed that comfort and security.

But, alas, it's not going to happen. Someone told me one time that it was easy to go back, all I had to do was put my faith in God. It is too late, though. We walk away from things and people in life that no matter how much we want to, we can never go back to them. That's the situation here.

I walked away from God almost two years ago. It started out as a hatred, the kind of thing that every Christian has at some point in their lives (why would he let something like this happen?). Then, subconsciously, I felt like I needed more grounding for my beliefs, and so I searched out every contradiction to the aspects of the religion that I could find. It worked.

Yet, it hurts. I cannot go back to the religion, because I feel I'm not that weak. I have backed up all of my beliefs solidly in my mind, and therefore, I honestly cannot even dream of placing faith in God anymore. And at times like this, everything is harder than I ever could have imagined.

Back to my original question, what do you do when you lose someone very close to you? Well, I guess I just have to tough it out and play it by ear. Take one day at a time. Just wait and see what happens. I lost someone that I really love, and it is going to take a while to get over that. God cannot help me, because I do not even believe in him. So I have to help myself. I have to believe in myself.

I just wish it were a lot simpler and easier than that.

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE COLLEGE

THE CHART

Missouri Southern State College,
3950 E. Newman Road, Joplin, Mo. 64801-1595

ALLISON ROSEWICZ **Editor-In-Chief**
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The Chart, the newspaper of Missouri Southern State College, is published weekly, except during holidays and examination periods, from August through May by students in communications as a laboratory experience. Views expressed do not represent the opinions of the administration, faculty or the student body.

Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the editor must be signed originals and include the writer's address and phone number for verification. Letters should not exceed 300 words. *The Chart* reserves the right to edit or refuse letters on the basis of length, clarity, accuracy and liability. Letters will be chosen for publication by *The Chart* editors according to space considerations.

Alcohol policy hypocritical

Chart Opinion

It is a well-known fact that Missouri Southern does not allow alcohol on its grounds.

Unfortunately, a bit of hypocrisy has crept into that dry-campus policy.

Students are forbidden from even bringing closed containers anywhere on campus. According to policy, one would think faculty and outsiders are also not allowed to do so. Unfairly, that appears not to be the case.

At various faculty functions and events for outsiders at the College, alcohol has been served. To students who face severe punishment for even bringing a closed container on campus, that simply is not fair.

Members of the Student Senate are trying to make things fair again. They are forming a committee to petition the College to create an alcohol resolution. This resolution would prevent anyone and everyone from bringing alcohol on campus.

These members of the Student Senate should be commended for their efforts to create fairness. If one person cannot consume alcohol on campus, the next person should not be able to either.

This, however, raises an interesting issue. Will this resolution actually prevent alcohol-related problems? When it comes to students, the answer is no. College students are going to drink, period.

Maybe it is time for the College to consider what many students have been asking for throughout the years – a wet campus where alcohol is allowed for those of age.

It is a solution to at least think about.

Campus Voice

Should Southern allow alcohol on campus?

"As long as the student or faculty member is over 21, I have no problem with it."

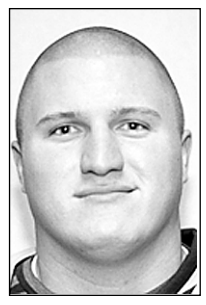
Stephanie Sooter
Freshman
Elementary education
Major

"If you're over 21, it shouldn't be a big deal. It should be a personal decision."

Ashley Eckhart
Freshman
Elementary education
Major

"I think as long as the person is of legal age, it's their choice. However, I personally like the fact that MSSC is an alcohol free campus.

Miranda Tyler
Freshman
Undecided
Major



"If someone wants to drink, I don't have a problem with that."

Joey Miller
Sophomore
Criminal Justice
Major

"I believe that it is your personal decision. I say let people make up their own minds about it."

Cody Bond
Sophomore
Psychology
Major

In Perspective

Parking lots, concrete barriers still dangerous for pedestrians

Jan Maldonado
Theatre House Manager

OK, let's talk about the new and "improved" (and I use that word loosely) crosswalk situation. At first, I was delighted that the dangerous situation of the crosswalks was finally being addressed by the College.

We have dealt with traffic dilemmas at Missouri Southern for years now, and I was hoping it would not take a fatality to finally get something done to change the situation.

Several administrators had told me that a walkover bridge had been discussed as a solution to the traffic on Duquesne Road. This idea was overruled after those involved in the decision felt it was too costly and would not be used by the students anyway. It was thought that students would just go around the bridge, so why waste the money?

Then the problem was finally re-addressed this last year with the idea that traffic lights were the answer to all the problems.

Well, in the case of the crossing of Newman Road, I do believe the light has made the situation a little better. Now, drivers have to stop for the light, which allows students to cross Newman Road, as long as they watch for the vehicles turning left from out of the College, for they have the same light and time slot as the students.

This is somewhat of an improvement over the haphazard, leave-it-to-the-driver's discretion whether or not to stop to allow students to cross and keeps the students crossing in timed sequences, so vehicles do not have to wait for student after student who wander up to the crosswalk one after the other.

But, the crossing of Duquesne is still a scary and frightening experience. First of all, the placement of this crossing has always been in a precarious spot.

You could not see the oncoming south traffic from the standpoint of the crossing area. Due to the hill hardly 50 feet away from the crossing, you couldn't see any oncoming vehicles until they were right on you.

Now, with the light, it helps that there is an actual stoplight for traffic instead of a yellow blinking light, so a pedestrian can feel a little more assured that they will not get hit by a car or truck. But a pedestrian must still watch out for vehicles turning left and right out of the parking lots, for they are timed to go at the same time. This, combined with the amount of activity that takes place at this intersection which includes both parking lots, pedestrian crossing from four directions, and the through traffic of Duquesne, combined with the traffic of the Southern games, there is still a lot of congestion.

Most of all though, I and many others are concerned over the concrete barriers in the middle of the road.

I have been told that they were installed to ensure that students would not be able to jaywalk and be forced to use the crosswalk. Well, I think that a wire fence, just like the one next to the parking lots, would have made a much better choice than to put up huge, scary concrete blocks, that are not only intimidating, but further block the view of the traffic to pedestrians and vehicles alike.

Group plans Paris history trip for spring

BY JESSICA RAGAN
Staff Writer

Paris, France, is the destination for many Missouri Southern students and faculty over spring break.

In 2002, Dr. Paul Teverow, professor of history, accompanied the communications department to Paris for a seminar. While there, Teverow decided that "Paris would be a good place for a student trip."

"When I went to Versailles, I realized that this would be ideal for a student tour," Teverow said. "If you're only going for a week, there's enough in Paris that you can see that would keep you busy. And, it ties in very well with many of the topics that I cover in history."

In order to go on this trip, students must be enrolled in the History and Splendors of Paris class. The prerequisite for this class is to have taken English 102 or any History course at the 100-level. In this course, students are required to write a research paper over one of the historical sites in Paris.

The tours of historical sites, lectures, and discussion sessions that will be held in Paris will serve as research for the history students.

The American University of Paris will have a hand in the trip via providing the opportunity for Missouri Southern students to meet the president and other faculty members.

The history group will be visiting various historical sites and experiencing French culture. The first day, students will be going on a boat ride on the Seine River. They will be visiting Notre Dame, the Ile St. Louis, and Versailles, among other places.

The estimated total cost of the trip per student, according to Teverow, is $2,300. However, students are eligible for a grant of approximately $1,130.

Melissa Toalson, sophomore secondary education major, is planning on taking advantage of the grant.

"This is a great opportunity," Toalson said. "There will probably never be another chance to go to Paris for this cheap."

Matthew Stith, senior social science-history major, is also enrolled in the class.

"I am really looking forward to the trip," Stith said. "This type of world experience is good for any future occupation, especially one dealing with history."

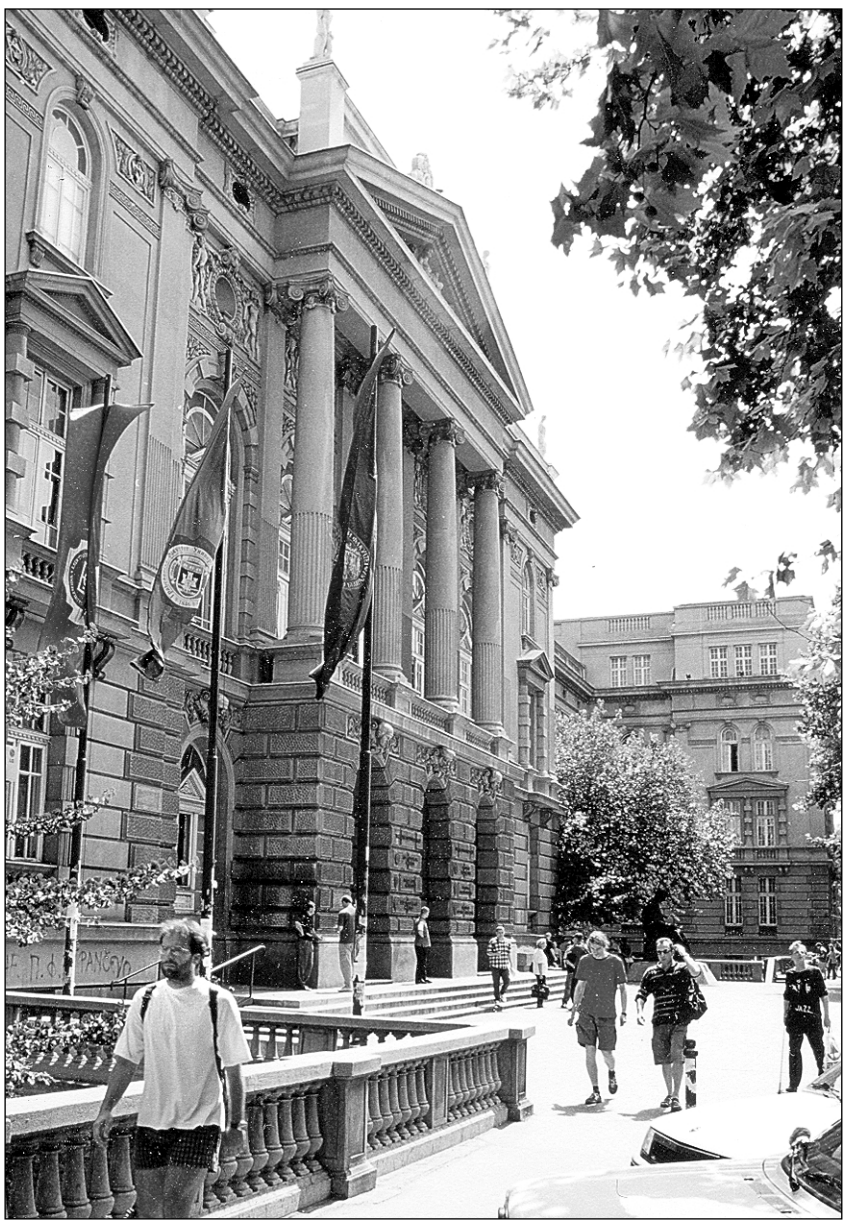
After this trip, Teverow says that he plans on going to France many more times.

"I just liked Paris a lot more than I ever would have expected," Teverow said. "I anticipate going back there and visiting other parts of France."

"There will probably never be another chance to go to Paris this cheap."

Melissa Toalson
Sophomore Secondary Education Major

Chaos proves need for improvement



Special to the Chart

The University of Belgrade building for the engineering department stands as a center of hope for the future of the country.

Kosta Savic
Contributing Writer

With the coming of the new government, the attitudes of students and younger generations has changed toward the government's politics. The previous regime had a solid and strong tendency toward centralization and having all cultural development under its control and influence. Students and artists were protesting against single-minded values toward the cultural life of its citizens. A non-criticizing attitude of such administration lead the culture toward rebellious stage against constraints and fighting for liberation of art.

In Serbia and Montenegro, during the period of many years, working on the black market in light of abnormal inflation was the highest paid profession. Such conditions lead to increasing number of crime, along with rejection of all values, morals and right judgments toward the criminal activities. At the same time, people that profited from the wars have to live with the fugitives that lost everything in those wars. These situations lead people to change their beliefs and way of conduct in order to bend backwards for the corrupted government and become part of the system that will lead them all to poverty.

However, conflict and the rebellious movements are asking for positive changes. The students, and the future of Yugoslavia, are not accepting the system that does not give them the liberty and opportunity for achievements. Therefore, students are leaving the country, taking roads toward more liberal cultures with higher perspectives on future. Those students are not willing to fight wars, except the ones for their own success. The sad but real question remains on whether intelligent people left the country or they were only making an intelligent decision to leave. It will take decades, if ever, to replace and rebuild lost values that have been spread all over the world. What could possibly persuade people to return to their home country that previously rejected them and additionally accused them as a traitors of their own nation?

An ancient philosophy still remains true that states "knowledge is power." Current leaders of reforms in Serbia and Montenegro are people that gain their knowledge in foreign countries. Those people returned to make extraordinary changes and bring the shine that the country once had before they left, right before the sunset. The real question remains on schedule of reconstructions.

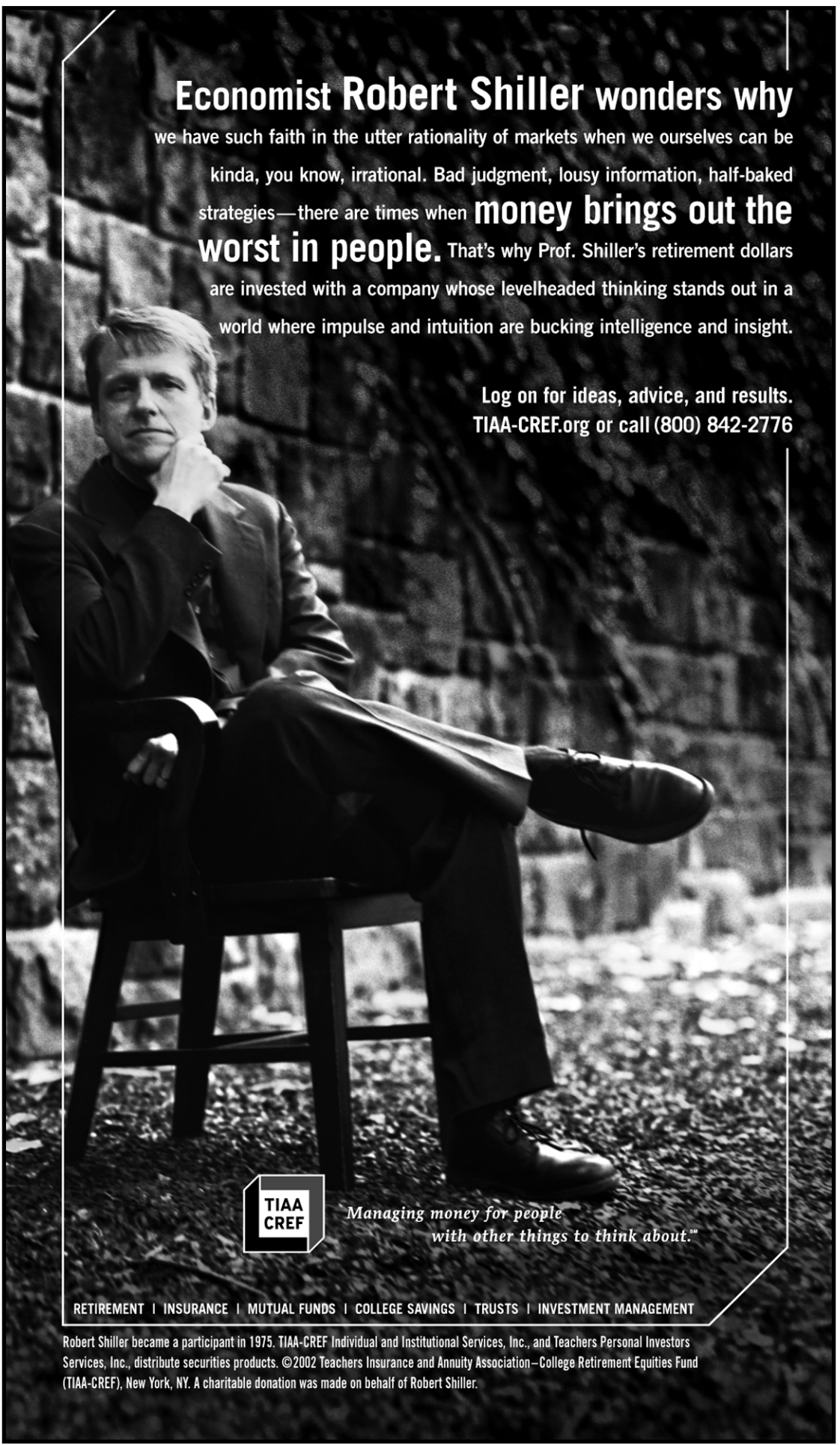
Continuing creativity is the road of vision for future educational development. The basic requirement for creating positive perspectives for students inside Serbia and Montenegro is the ability to sustain everyday life and create adequate strategy for resolving daily assignments. A very commonly used propaganda's phrase is, "In step with the world." This is supposed to represent people that inherited bad luck from the previous government.

However, the new government is seeing a core future prosperity for those people if everyone is willing to participate.

It is also necessary to state the problem of low birth rate that the government is trying to stimulate with the money that does not exist. The future condition of this country depends on concerns about the children. The government is supposed to support talents in providing scholarships in exchange for willingness to work and study. Parallel campaigns against children's use of alcohol and drugs are trying to lead the children in the right direction. As of last year, the government is introducing the subjects of religion and correct education in the curriculum of middle and high school in order to somewhat secure future existence of this country.

Necessary reforms in education and cooperation with the universities of the world, as well as proper network of information, will lead Serbia and Montenegro to the world.

Current students, growing up in times when the rest of the world was rejecting them, will never forget that episode of their lives, but will hope in good relations and a better future.


Economist Robert Shiller wonders why
we have such faith in the utter rationality of markets when we ourselves can be kinda, you know, irrational. Bad judgment, lousy information, half-baked strategies—there are times when money brings out the worst in people. That's why Prof. Shiller's retirement dollars are invested with a company whose levelheaded thinking stands out in a world where impulse and intuition are bucking intelligence and insight.
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Allison Rosewicz/The Chart

Mike Snow, program director for KHST Real Rock 101.7, thinks the station's improvements since upgrading from 99.1 will help KHST become the dominant rock station in the area. The station increased its wattage from 3,000 to 25,000 watts.

Rock station powers up, reaches out

By Allison Rosewicz
Editor-in-Chief

A recent upgrade has allowed a local radio station to really rock.

Based in Pittsburg, Kan., KHST Real Rock 101.7 has increased its wattage since its existence as KJML 99.1 from 3,000 to 25,000 watts.

Mike Snow, program director, said 101.7 can be received all the way to Springfield and 15 miles outside of Kansas City.

"Everybody's been really excited that they can pick us up now," Snow said. "We were drawing from such a nucleus of kids."

Missouri Southern students have also noticed the advantages of the upgrade.

Sarah Schlink, freshman pre-vet major, used to live in Pittsburg and is one of those students who appreciates the improvements.

"I think the reception is better," she said. "Their range is better."

Since moving to Joplin, she said she listens to its rock station, 105.3. But she now plans to start listening to 101.7 more.

Snow said the station has received a good response since the upgrade, and many new listeners have called in from towns across the area, including Lamar, Greenfield and Neosho.

The station applied for the upgrade in 1997. It took five years to work out all the details.

"We had to submit a ton of paperwork to the government," Snow said. "We finally got approval last February."

Due to weather and equipment problems, it took another 11 months for 101.7 to function. Jerry Tibbetts, station engineer, said the new equipment cost the station $77,000.

In addition to the increased reception, Snow also thinks Real Rock will now appeal to more advertisers in Joplin.

"There are a lot of businesses in Joplin," he said. "Pittsburg doesn't have much to it."

With the upgrade, 101.7 became an Arbitron-rated station.

"Now we actually have a chance to do promotions in Joplin," Snow said. "We have a better chance to get regional and national advertising."

Along with the wattage and advertising changes, Real Rock will also amend its programming and promotions.

Although 101.7's signal is based in the central location of Lamar, it advertises itself as a Joplin station. In addition, Todd Loveland, sales manager, said the station will soon undergo personnel changes, although the current staff will stay.

"We're going to add on and have more of a live staff instead of voice tracking," Snow said.

During the station's rating period from April until the end of June, Snow said more commercials for the station will be aired and it will sponsor more concerts.

With all these changes, Snow thinks 101.7 will be more competitive with other rock stations such as 105.3 out of Joplin.

"They went from being the big boys to being a little smaller," he said.

Although the station is making advancements, Snow still wants it to remain a station with unique qualities.

"We want to be known as the concert station, the live music station," he said. "They're (105.3) corporate rock. We're independently owned. That's our niche. That's what radio is supposed to be."

Johnny Duratt, program director for 105.3, said he has not noticed more competition from 101.7 yet.

"But they've only been playing hot and heavy for about a month now," he said.

Duratt said although more competition from 101.7 may occur, 105.3 has no plans to make any changes to its format.

Although both stations play rock, he believes their styles are different.

"They're a lot harder," Duratt said. "They play a lot of music I have no idea what the hell it is."

Snow agreed on the difference in style.

"If you like rock, you like us," he said. "If you like power pop, you'll like 105."

Schlink said 101.7 "brings a better variety of music you don't hear everywhere."

Snow believes the station can eventually take over as the dominant rock station in the area.

"It's going to take time," he said. "But I also find out on a daily basis that more and more people are listening."

The '50s cruise into Memorial Hall with Broadway musical

By Josh Ray
Diversions Editor

Memorial Hall is going to take a trip down memory lane to the times of hot rods and pink skirts on March 3.

The Broadway musical *Grease* will be performed for the first time in Joplin. The production has been touring the country since September 2000. Mostly stopping in towns for one performance, the group has stopped in the bigger cities for up to a week at a time.

Diane Rodes works with the publicity end of the tour. She said the turn-out for the performances has been "very good." She doesn't expect the Joplin show to be any different.

Beth Kownslar, facility and events manager for Memorial Hall, said it has sold about 1,300 tickets already. She said ticket sales, which have been going on since December, got low for a while, though.

"It's picking up again," she said. "There's still plenty of tickets left."

Kownslar said this is the first time a Broadway production has ever come to Joplin.

She found the touring group and set up the show.

"I just thought I'd bring in a variety of performers," Kownslar said.

The musical is about Danny Zuko, leader of the gang called the Burger Palace Boys, and Sandy Dumbrowski, a naive transfer student. The show follows the two as they meet before school starts and then through their encounters during school.

"It's about a girl and a guy falling in love," Rodes said. "It just takes them through all of the events."

Rodes said that while the set for the production is "not very elaborate," it is a very colorful and "nice" set.

She thinks the producers would greatly enjoy performing in Joplin, especially since this will be the first time a Broadway show has come here.

"I would think that they would be excited about it for that simple fact," Rodes said.

The show will start at 7:30 p.m. Tickets will be on sale up until show time.

Prices run from $19 to $30 plus service charges, but Kownslar said she is running a special promotion for students.

If students go to the Hall's Web site at www.joplinmemorialhall.com and buy their tickets through the site, they can type in "Grease" as the promotional code on the checkout page. This will allow the students to get their second ticket half price.

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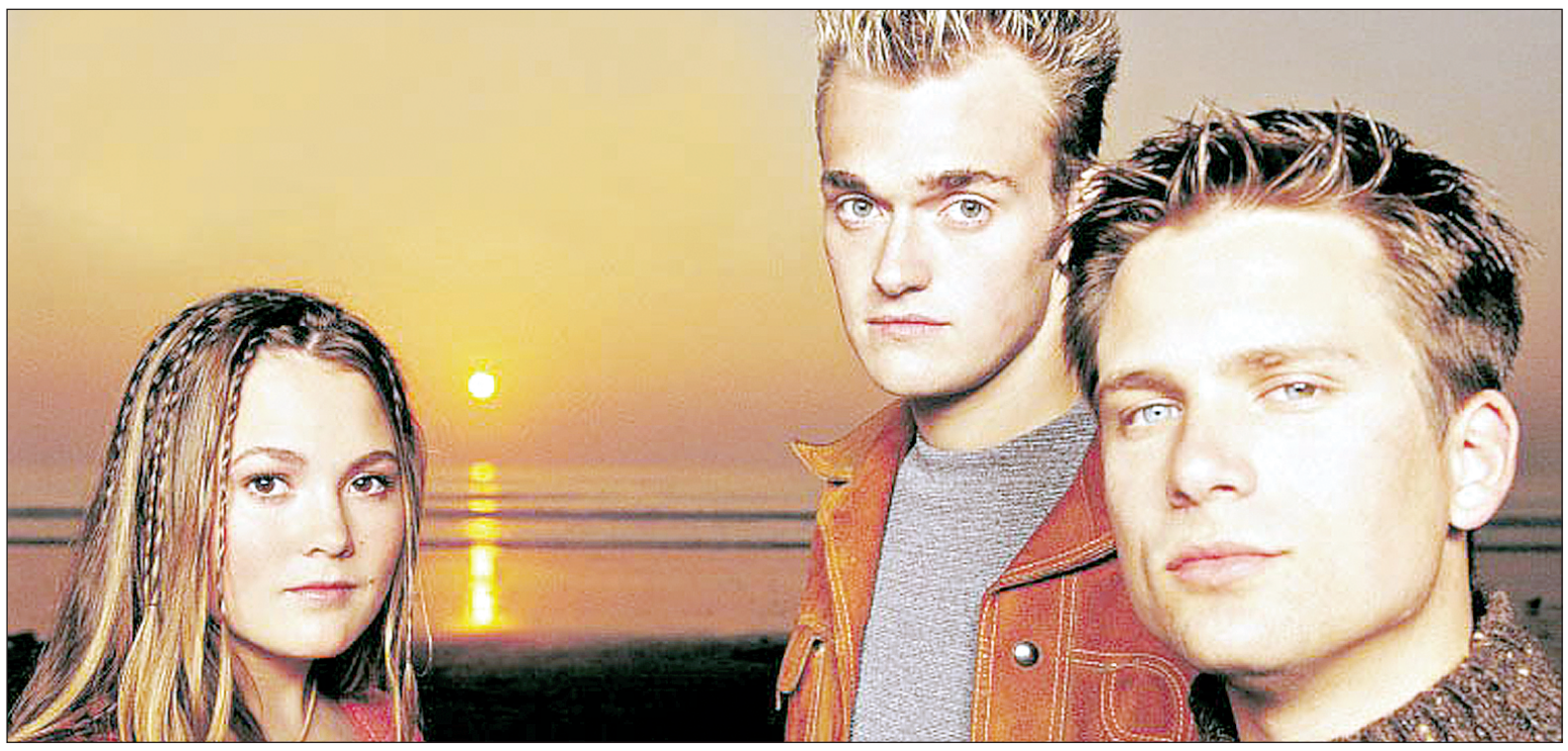
Nickel Creek is a bluegrass/folk group. Read one editor's take on the band.



Bluegrass trio mixes music melodiously

In Review

JEFF REID
Executive Editor

I normally hate the whole country/bluegrass genre of music, but one band has really got my interest.

This year's Grammy winner for best contemporary folk album, Nickel Creek, has one of the most original sounds in music right now, somehow mixing traditional folk and bluegrass styles with what can only be described as an alternative Celtic sound.

Now that may sound more than a little bizarre, but the trio somehow manages to pull it off on their award-winning album, *This Side*.

While there are some country-pop type songs similar to the Dixie Chicks or The Corrs, like "Spit on a Stranger" and "This Side," where the band really shines is in the slower, more mellow songs.

"Hanging by a Thread" and "Sabra Girl" are more mellow songs.

"Hanging by a Thread," "Should've known Better" and "Sabra Girl" are songs where the band shows what true folk music should sound like. Not a bunch of hippies singing songs about freedom with obscure analogies, rather, Nickel Creek captures the pure essence of the genre. It has heartfelt, straightforward songs, about love, loss and finding yourself. And many times, that's just in one song.

The amazing thing is how the group can convey so many different things at once and still not be obscenely wordy. Instead, it does a wonderful job of letting the music speak for itself. Oftentimes, the lyrics serve only to emphasize the point the music has already made.

Another thing that is refreshing about the band is its choice of instruments. Nickel Creek has no elaborate drum set, no multitude of guitarists; it is just three people and wonderfully simple.

Sean Watkins plays guitar, Sara Watkins plays fiddle and Chris Thile is on the mandolin. The setup is basic, but members are so technically skilled from their training as bluegrass artists, that the sound is absolutely incredible.

To hear a band with something besides the guitar/bass/drummer combination that has become the typical setup of bands today, is an interesting experience, to say the least. It's especially interesting when the band knows more than three or four chords, unlike most of the popular bands today.

I know this all sounds a bit out of character, after all, Rage Against the Machine, Better Than Ezra and Audioslave are some of my favorite bands. Trust me, Nickel Creek is one of the best, most innovative bands out today, regardless of genre. If you consider yourself a music lover in any sense of the word, then *This Side* is a must have.

Malik brings diversity, Burr brings laughter

BY MATT CAUFIELD
Staff Writer

Spring break is coming soon and the Campus Activities Board wants to make sure it's a safe break.

Safe Spring Break starts at 8 p.m. Tuesday at Billingsly Student Center with games and food for all. Comedian Billy Burr will perform at 9 p.m.

"It is going to be a laid back game night until the comedian," said Julie Blackford, director of student activities.

Burr guarantees he will put on a good show, promising he will not use lame jokes or a poor act. Burr has appeared on "Late Night with Conan O'Brien," NBC's "Comedy Showcase" and a variety of other shows and movies.

"We showed him at the CAB meeting and received a great response," Blackford said.

At 7 p.m. Wednesday in Webster Hall Auditorium, Malik Cooper from MTV's "Real World" will lecture about diversity. Cooper has been giving lectures on diversity across the country at different colleges and has received positive feedback.

"He was on the 'Back to New York' season," Blackford said. "On that show, there were a lot of race issues brought up."

"I am really excited that Malik is coming to campus," said Michelle Klund, freshman education major. "I think it is a very good idea, because people need to expand their horizons and learn about other cultures."

While on the show, biracial Cooper encountered prejudice and talked about diversity to his roommates.

"He has a lot of knowledge on diversity, because of living in the 'Real World' house," Klund said.

There were many speakers Southern wanted to bring on campus to speak on diversity, but Cooper was within the College's price range, said Jason Givens, senior CIS major and assistant activities director.

"A lot of speakers we wanted to bring were extremely high," he said.

CAB could not have Cooper speak during Black History Month due to scheduling conflicts at Webster Hall Auditorium. It was decided Wednesday evening would be the best night to host the diversity lecture so it would work out for students' schedules, Givens said.

Blackford said there are no events planned for Thursday and Friday due to the MIAA basketball tournament in Kansas City.

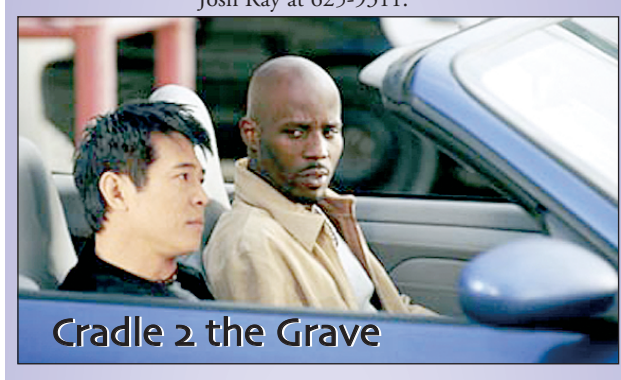
PLAY THAT TUNE

Fifteen-year-old Avan Yu takes a bow after playing his first recital Feb. 21 in the Webster Hall Auditorium. Yu took first place in his division at the 2002 Missouri Southern International Piano Competition.

Andy Tevis/The Chart

Area Events

If your organization has an event you would like publicized, call Josh Ray at 625-9311.



28 *Cradle 2 the Grave* opens at the Northstar 14 Theaters.

Lady Lions softball plays @ Dallas in the Division II Lead Off Classic. They will play there through March 2.

1 Lions and Lady Lions basketball play @ Washburn. Ladies play at 5:30 p.m., men at 7:30 p.m.

Lions baseball play @ noon at home vs Southern Illinois-Edwardsville. They will play there again on March 2 @ noon.

2 Lions baseball will play at home in the Missouri Southern Larry Hickey Classic. The tournament goes through March 8.

3 CAB meets @ 2 p.m. on the second floor of Billingsly.

A blood drive will be held from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. in the Keystone Lounge in Billingsly.

ODK meets @ 4:30 p.m. in Billingsly Room 313.

4 The Math League will meet @ noon in the Keystone Lounge in Billingsly.

LDSSA will meet @ noon in Billingsly Room 306.

CAB will be having a Safe Spring Break Bash @ 8 p.m. on the second floor of Billingsly.

5 Mock interviews will be given from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m on the third floor of Billingsly.

A graduate expo will be held from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the second floor lounge of Billingsly.

College Republicans will meet @ noon on the first floor of Billingsly.

Student Senate meets @ 5 p.m. in Billingsly Room 310.

6 Catholic Campus Ministries will meet @ noon on the third floor of Billingsly.

LDSSA will meet @ noon in Billingsly Room 306.

FCA will meet @ 7 p.m. in the #2 lounge of Billingsly.

Chi Alpha meets @ 7 p.m. in Billingsly Room 311.

Lady Lions softball will play @ 5 p.m. at home vs. Southwestern Oklahoma State U.

WEEKEND HAPPENINGS:

Kitchen Pass:: ***Friday:*** Something Jones 9:30 p.m.

The Green Room:: ***Friday:*** The Upside, Far From Yesterday, 9 p.m.

Saturday: One Track Mind, 9 p.m.

Useless Information

Dracula is the most filmed story of all time. (and one of the most butchered stories)

In a 1631 printing of the Bible, an English printer left out the word "not" from the Seventh commandment, causing it to read - "Thou shalt commit adultery." This printing was referred to as the Wicked Bible. (well, some kind of Bible... don't know if it's wicked or not)

While the Bible is the world's best-selling book, it's also the world's most shoplifted book. (such a true Bible reader, right?)

If you live in Baltimore, be aware that it is illegal to take a lion to the movies with you. (I think that's discrimination against those practicing bestiality)

Every citizen of Kentucky is required by law to take a bath once a year. (at least they believe in good hygiene, kind of)

NOTE: Most information for this section taken from www.amusingtrivia.com
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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ADA renews Freeman diabetes certificate

Freeman Health System's Diabetes Self-Management Program renewed its American Diabetes Association's Education Recognition certificate.

The certificate is awarded to programs that meet the national standards for diabetes self-management education programs.

Health Care students receive scholarships

Freeman Health System Auxiliary awarded scholarships to five students working toward degrees in health care.

Two of the $500 scholarships went to Missouri Southern students: Erin Burns, pre-physical therapy major; and Rachelle Hawks, nursing major.

The other three scholarships went to students from Crowder College, Pittsburg State University and Northeastern Oklahoma A&M.

All five students also work for Freeman.

Freeman Auxiliary raises funds for a variety of health care and community endeavors.

Spiva Center displays Hispanic illustrations

The George A. Spiva Center for the Arts will present "Alma Flor Ada: Hispanic Children's Books Illustrations" featuring illustrations from Cuban-born Alma Flor Ada's books.

The opening reception for the the exhibit will be from 5-7 p.m., Friday.

The exhibit, appearing in the Regional Gallery, will remain on display until April 6.

The Center is located at 222 W. Third St., and its hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sundays.

For information, persons may contact the Center at 623-0183 or visit its Web site at www.spivaarts.com.

OUT WITH THE OLD, IN WITH THE NEW

Bill Shepherd/The Chart

Aaron Hoover gives Justin Acuff a lift to do some work on the Taco Bell on Range Line Road while Terry McCormick looks on. The three work for Acuff Framing in Caney, Kan.

FOOD:

From Page 1

from food service providers. Carnahan said he believes students are generally satisfied with the food service.

"Food service is always a battle," Carnahan said. "You know, you're only as good as your last meal."

Krystal Turner, senior communications major, said food service could always stand to be improved.

"It looks like it has been sitting out all day," Turner said.

"It needs to be warmer when we get it."

Carnahan said input from students is handled through a food service committee that meets with Ameriserve management.

The committee, which is comprised of mainly residence hall students, provides suggestions to the food directors.

"Generally, we've been very pleased," Carnahan said.

"We're not going out to bid because we're unhappy with them.

That doesn't have anything to do with it."

Erina Parks, senior theatre major, said it will be easier than walking across campus just to eat.

"We spend most of our time over there anyway," she said.

The Grotto resides in historic building

BY T.J. GERLACH
City Editor

Fine dining is not always found in big cities.

Such is the case with The Grotto Espresso Café in Neosho.

The Grotto, in its third year of operation, was opened by Vickie Boyt and her husband Art.

The building housing the restaurant is on the Historic Register and the Boyts chose to renovate the building according to the "historic guidelines." The restaurant sits in the basement of the building with a gift shop above and a courtyard behind the building.

"Customers seem to like the atmosphere," said Vickie Boyt. "We really wanted to provide a place that would promote lingering conversations. We don't rush people through."

Joplin resident, Ruth Mattes said, "The atmosphere is charming and the food is delicious."

The Grotto started as a deli and espresso café, but Boyt had always wanted to do dinners. The menu has approximately 15 entrees, mostly Italian, but a few other options such as a 8-ounce filet cooked in a red wine sauce.

Boyt said almost everything, including the desserts, are made in-house.

"Creme Bruleé has become sort of our speciality," she said. "I'd say the steak, our Alfredo sauce and the Creme Bruleé are the things people mention a lot."

She also said for a small restaurant, The Grotto has a "nice size" wine list with about 40 wines.

The Grotto's regular customers come from a 40-mile radius with customers from Monett, Webb City, many from Joplin and some from Bella Vista, Ark.

"We get that because we're unique," Boyt said.

Mattes learned about The Grotto from a friend and advertisements.

The two friends decided to make reservations and meet some other friends for dinner at The Grotto.

"I think we'll be back," she said. "The company is delightful."

The Grotto has 11 tables, with more in the courtyard during the summer.

"We recommend reservations, especially on Friday and Saturday," Boyt said.

The restaurant is located at 127 E. Main St. in Neosho on the square. It is open from 5 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

For information or to make a reservation, persons may call The Grotto at 417-451-7979.

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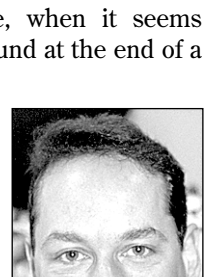
Graham calls for more funding

BY VIRGINIA FAIRCHILD
State News Editor

In times like these, when it seems money can only be found at the end of a rainbow or in another universe, it's nice to have hope.



Chuck Graham
State Representative

And, in this case, hope disguises itself in the form of a gesture.

In a Feb. 19 meeting of the House Appropriations-Education Committee, Rep. Chuck Graham (D-Columbia), former chair of the committee, along with other Democratic members of the committee, introduced substitute amendments to "restore every institution of higher education to '02 funding levels" for FY 2004.

College President Julio León said during the last session the Coordinating Board for Higher Education conducted a report on where college funding should be. The Board recommended $1.8 million more funding for Missouri Southern.

Graham said Rep. Kathlyn Fares (R-Webster Groves) chair of the committee, voted to cut budgets for every higher education institution.

"We believe higher education funding has been cut too much, and here's where we need to stop the bleeding," he said. "Cutting funding is just going to make colleges less affordable to students."

Fares said her committee was "charged" with a job of cutting due to a downturn in the state's economy. The committee was given a target to meet, so Fares proposed a 0.25 percent cut for every institute of higher education in Missouri.

"It was necessary to do the trimming," she said.

To combat the proposal Graham sponsored a substitute amendment that would grant Missouri Southern $1.8 million in funding, as well as more money for Missouri Western State College and Southwest Missouri State University.

"I know that he did it because he knows there are some inequities in funding," León said.

The substitute amendments were voted down and Fares won on party lines, Graham said.

Fares said no person on her committee wanted to cut education; she too believes higher education has been cut enough. She said the state "couldn't even entertain" Graham's amendments, and she should have put a stop to them prior to the vote since they had no corresponding place in the budget.

The substitutes by Graham and his fellow minority democrats would not have even been possible because the money doesn't exist, Fares said. She said there were Republicans in her committee who had to vote down on substitutes that would benefit institutions in the areas they serve because the money isn't there.

"He did this just so he could have on record every Republican who voted against it," she said. "It was political bandstanding at its worst."

She said she hopes this will be the only reduction to higher education for the FY 2004 budget.

"I have spoken to a few institutions, and most are very happy (with how little the committee had to cut)," she said.

In January 2003, Graham was reported to have said he wanted to close Missouri Southern down to save money in the budget crisis.

"I never said that," Graham said.

He confirmed that asking for additional funding for Southern was not at all related to the articles claiming he wanted to shut the College down.

León said he believes Graham's gesture was a way to let the College know he doesn't have anything against it.

"He has said that he really didn't have any intention of closing the school, just calling attention to the fiscal crisis," León said. "I accept that, but I also appreciate, very much, the gesture that he made to increase our appropriation."

STATE NEWS BRIEFS

SMSU considers eliminating sport

Southwest Missouri State University is preparing for budget cuts by studying what sports it may have to eliminate if funds are cut for fiscal year 2004.

Athletic officials were asked to prioritize programs if cuts have to be made this year. SMSU leaders are working on various options the school may use to save money.

SMSU President John Keiser told the *Springfield News-Leader* that of the 21 sports at the university, only football, the two basketball programs and baseball are immune from the cut.

Cutting sports programs is one obstacle, but SMSU also has to find a way to stay under the regulations set forth by Title IX gender-equity requirements.

MOST legislation allows tax breaks

Legislation is being considered that would grant Missourians a tax break for investing in the state's tuition savings plan.

People investing in MOST, Missouri Saving for Tuition, would receive a tax break on their state income tax when they deposit money in the state's savings program or if they invest in bank certificates of deposit. Members of the House gave approval to the bill and expects to send it to the Senate, where a similar proposal is pending.

St. Louis institution plans new arena

St. Louis University announced plans to construct a new university arena in midtown St. Louis, if the school can raise $45 million in private donations.

NAME:

From Page 1

ed from anywhere in Missouri. The College would retain its international education mission, having the state responsible for international education.

Also included in the bill is the requirement that Southern would abate all associate degree programs by July 21, 2008. These degrees can be continued with approval from the Coordinating Board for Higher Education. Nodler said this new policy was part of the compromise established to pass this bill. Studies have been done to suggest that two-year degrees are associated with community colleges and technical schools, he said.

So, to discard of the degree that associates with a college or two-year institution would be appropriate when changing Southern to a university.

"It's not state policy; it's just one of those things where some people believe that a university should not offer associate degrees, that that is the purpose of community colleges," León said. "But, the fact is that there are many major research universities that offer Ph.Ds and associate degrees as well; the practice varies from state to state."

This change, Nodler said, would benefit colleges surrounding Southern because it would enable them to inherit some of Southern's two-year programs.

The colleges would also be able to work together to offer other cooperative arrangements, Nodler said.

"The changes made under this bill will make Missouri Southern stronger, Crowder College would be stronger, in fact; the entire higher educational system will be made stronger," Nodler said.

Some changes that were made to the original bill were done so to ensure its approval in the Senate.

"We felt that the name change to a university is very valuable to our institution, to our students, to the whole region," León said.

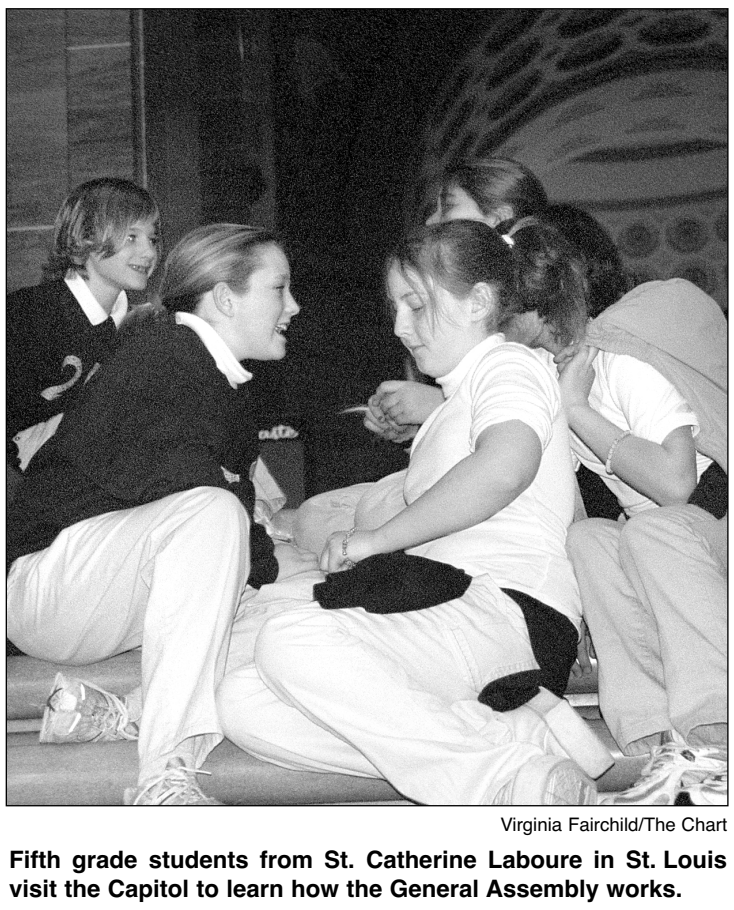
"In order to gain that, we had to give up something."

He said the College may choose to retain some associate degrees that might be valuable to Southern students.

"So, a very good and important step forward has been taken," León said in a campus wide e-mail Feb. 20. "There is still a good way to go.

"But, it's exciting to think about the possibilities and the potential for us as a university."

HANGING OUT



Virginia Fairchild/The Chart

Fifth grade students from St. Catherine Laboure in St. Louis visit the Capitol to learn how the General Assembly works.

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March 5 – BSC 2nd Floor
10 a.m - 2 p.m. & 5:30 - 7 p.m.

Lions collapse Miners' tunnel

BY KEITH ROBERTSON
Staff Writer

The final home game of the season is always a special one, especially for the seniors playing their last home game of their careers.

On Feb. 26, two Missouri Southern seniors, Zach Scheirer and Jamahr Warren, were honored before the game against the University of Missouri-Rolla. For both, it was a special moment in their college careers. They both transferred to Southern before the 2001-2002 season and contributed to the success the team has had over the last two years.

"The last couple of years went by fast, but they were a great experience," Scheirer said. "We've worked hard and been successful. Hopefully, we've added to the program and kept it moving in a forward direction."

Warren felt the same as Scheirer about his time at Southern.

"I have matured a lot since I transferred from junior college," Warren said. "Hopefully it won't end here. We want to continue as far into post-season play as we can."

The 71-56 win over the visiting Miners was an all-around good game for the Lions (18-8, 10-7 MIAA).

Southern head coach Robert Corn said the team did what it needed to do at home. He said he was happy the team was able to play well before it ends its regular season on the road at Washburn University.

"We did a nice job of making the extra pass tonight, and that got us a lot of wide open looks at 3-point shots," Corn said. "We also improved toning in our transition game and our rebounding on both ends of the court. Those are things we need to do to continue to be successful."

Lions 71

Miners 56

The Lions came out strong in the first half. The Miners did, however, mount a little scoring drive, while some of Southern's starters were out to bring the halftime score to 35-32.

The second half was pretty much the same for the Lions as the first. Southern quickly increased its lead in the second half to 12, and led by as much as 20 going into the closing minutes of the game.

The Lions were led offensively, fittingly enough, by Warren who scored 23 points in his last performance at Leggett & Platt Athletic Center.

"I wanted to leave a little stamp for people to remember me by," Warren said. "I wasn't here long enough to break any records, so I wanted to go out strong."

The Lions will end their regular season on the road on Saturday at Washburn.

The Lions will probably end up fourth or fifth in the conference.

That means they will begin the Sonic/MIAA Championship tournament at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, March 7 at Kansas City's Municipal Auditorium.

Andy Tevis/ The Chart

Freshman Forward Deon Rose takes a shot during the game versus University of Missouri-Rolla.

Turner, Jones break records

BY CLIFF ERWIN
Staff Writer

On Friday and Saturday, the Lions and Lady Lions will test their abilities at Central Missouri State University for the MIAA championships.

Both teams are coming off a good Feb. 22 showing at the University of Oklahoma Invitational.

The Lions traveled to OU without many of the long-distance runners, but took a lot of the athletes who are on the edge of making it to the national championships.

Seth Isringhausen bettered his height to 16-6, which places him second in the nation in Division II. Tom Rutledge, head men's track coach, thinks Isringhausen is on the bubble to really take off and that he will do well, maybe even a national championship.

B.J. Blocker improved in his 200-meter, 400-meter and hurdle times, and was consistent throughout the day in all of his events. He will serve as a key in the Lions' chance at attaining the second out of three MIAA championships for this year, first being the cross country title and third being the upcoming outdoor track title.

Friday and Saturday, the team travels to CMSU for the MIAA championships and the biggest team on the mind of Rutledge is the home team.

"It's going to be a tough two days, but naturally I told my athletes, it's time for the men to stand up and be counted," Rutledge said.

At OU, the Lady Lions had their last chance to face non-conference competition in preparation for the MIAA championships.

Danee Jones fared well at the meet, placing sixth in the shot put with a toss of 41-9, and first place in the weight throw with a throw of 58-9. Jones shattered the meet record for the weight throw, which was previously held by Nancy Guillen from Oklahoma State University, who threw 57-5 in 1999.

"I was just out trying to do my best," Jones said.

Melissa Turner also had a good showing at the meet by vaulting 11-2 and provisionally qualifying for the Division II national championship.

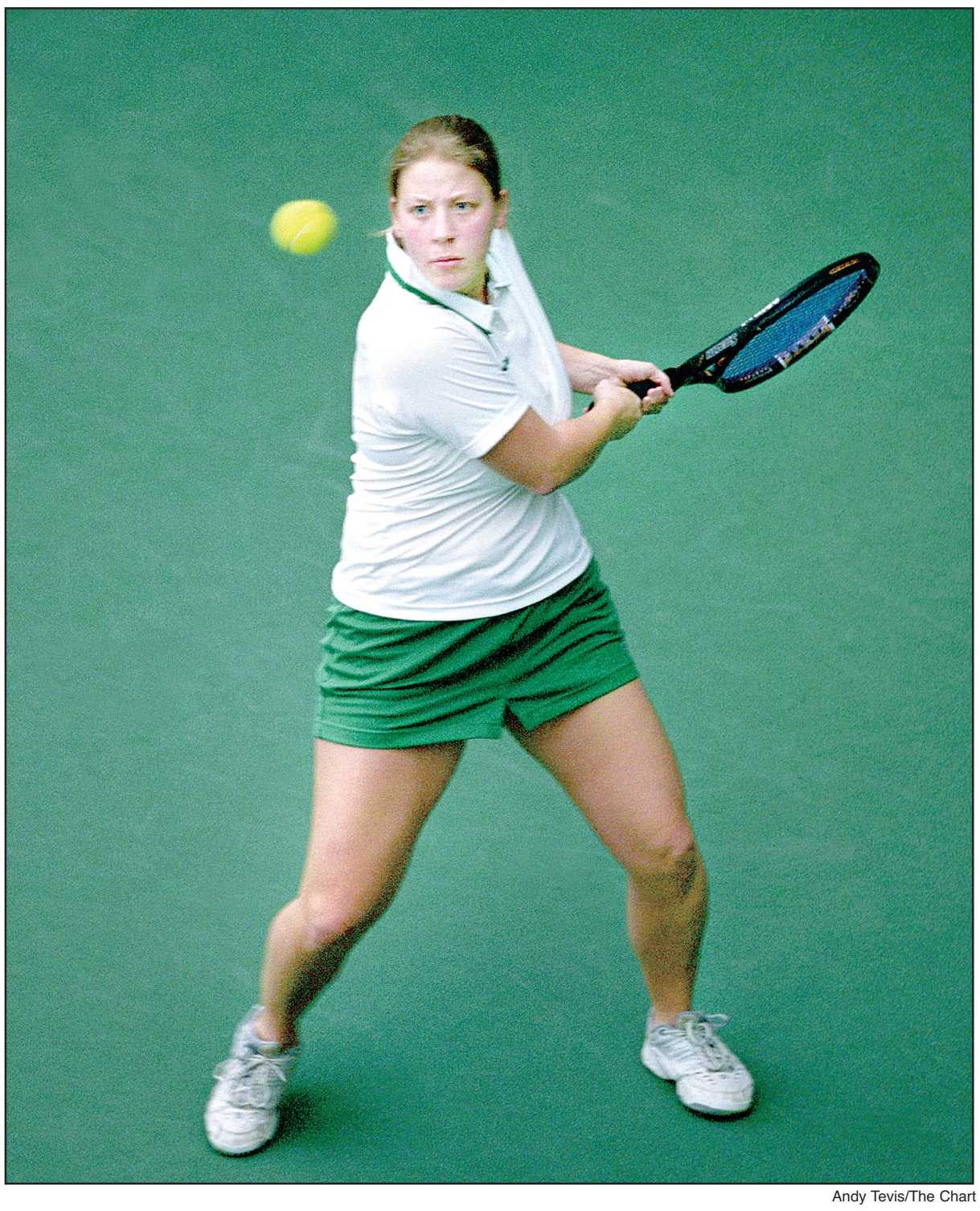
She beat her own record set earlier this season at 10-10.

Mary Garrett set a school record in the 200-meter dash with a time of 25.32, the old record has been the same since the beginning of the program.

Friday and Saturday the team travels to CMSU for the MIAA championships, where it is facing some of the best competition in Division II.

"I think that they're still a step away from being extremely competitive in this conference, but they are steadily improving," said Patty Vavra, head women's track coach.

Vavra said the upperclassmen will have a good chance of being conference champions individually and even make it to the national championships in March in Boston.



Andy Tevis/The Chart

Amy Stredney of Missouri Southern works to defeat Jackie Gilmore of Cowley County Community College during a singles game at the Millennium Tennis and Fitness Club. Southern collected a 5-4 win over CCCC.

Tennis team serves up first win

BY PHILIP MARTIN
Sports Editor

One match into the season and the Lady Lions tennis team already has something to work on — footwork.

"One of the common threads was footwork, which we work on every day in practice," said Julie Wengert, head tennis coach. "It just seems to really get everybody in a match. You get tired, and foot work starts to fall, which causes you to start doing incorrect technique."

Wengert said the team will be working on footwork technique in the upcoming weeks, so "they might regret saying that footwork was something that they needed to work on."

In the singles match, Sheryl Posch, junior, was defeated by an old rival, Suzanne Fry (1-6, 7-5, 10-1). Wengert said Posch used to play Fry in Kansas when she "was growing up in juniors."

Because Missouri Southern was playing at Millennium Tennis & Fitness Club, it shortened the matches. Instead of playing the third match, Posch and Fry played a 10-point tie breaker, or "super breaker." Kim McMunn, freshman, said she was pleased with the way she played on Feb. 22. She said she was most nervous about her doubles match, where she was paired with Amy Stredney, junior. The pair defeated Kelle Stinson and Jackie Gilmore (8-4). In the singles, Kim McMunn defeated Birgit Daechert (6-1, 6-0).

Wengert said Stredney, who transferred from Cowley College, was nervous about playing in front of her old coach and teammates in her singles match. However, Stredney defeated Gilmore (7-5, 6-1).

"In the first match of the season, everyone is pretty nervous, and it showed," Wengert said.

Also in the winners circle were Posch and Lacey McMunn, sophomore, who defeated Fry and Jill Hocker (8-2) in a doubles match. In the singles, Lacey McMunn won against Hocker (6-2, 6-0). Halee Phillips, sophomore, and Stephanie Johnson, freshman, lost to Daechert and Kayla Strange (8-0). Phillips was defeated by Stinson (6-2, 6-2) and Johnson was defeated by Strange (6-0, 6-0).

The final score was Southern 5, Cowley 4.

The next match is Friday and Saturday in Lawton, Okla., at the Cameron University Tournament.

Lady Lions bury UMR 69-53 in last home game

BY KRISTEN SMITH
Assistant Sports Editor

Despite school cancellations due to 10 inches of snow, Lady Lions basketball played on in its last home game of the season.

The women invited the Lady Miners of University of Missouri-Rolla to a rematch on Lion turf Feb. 26.

Fans saw a 69-53 Lady Lion victory giving the women a 15-13 stand for the season. Freshman guard Nicole Greninger stepped out on court with the fans cheering in approval.

"I was really excited," Greninger said.

"I saw that we were struggling, and I wanted to please the coaches."

The coaches were more than pleased with the performance.

"I've never been more proud of a group of ladies," said Maryann Mitts, head women's basketball coach.

Senior guard Jacquie Rzezsut held the scoring high of 12 points for the game.

This was the last home game performance for this year's senior players.

"I'm going to miss the seniors a lot," Greninger said. "Jacquie Rzezsut is an awesome player, and Jaime Green has been so positive to me."

On Feb. 22, the Lady Lions welcomed Truman State University's Lady Bulldogs to Joplin. The Lady Lions held a victory over the Lady Bulldogs earlier this season when they played at Truman.

The women's theory that they cannot lose at home didn't prove itself on Feb. 22 as Truman took the game from Southern.

Southern lost the game 66-61 with Truman leading in both halves. With 2:46 left in the game, the Lady Lions were lacking only two points but could not pull through.

Katie Deen held the game highs, scoring 12 points for Southern, and Rzezsut managed five assists.

Freshman guard Carol Koenig fouled out of the game without scoring any points.

With one away game before conference left in the season, the Lady Lions look to their second game against Washburn, Kan., on Saturday.

Tipoff is set for 5:30 p.m. at Washburn.

"I think that it will take all of us," Greninger said. "I think we are going to show them that we are there to win the game and to give it all we've got."

Young baseball team looks toward full season, weather permitting

BY KEITH ROBERTSON
Staff Writer

After being drummed by Dallas Baptist in the first four games of the season, the Missouri Southern baseball team put up three wins on Feb. 22.

The Lions defeated Quincy University 3-2 and 1-0 and Oklahoma Panhandle 12-0 to bring their record to 3-4 on the season.

"Our pitching staff has done well so far," Turner said. "We have a very good Division II staff and I think it will be the strong point of our team all season."

The pitching staff is led by Nick Johnson and Nick Davis, both juniors, and sophomore Nathan Hughes. Johnson (1-1) is leading the rotation with 12 innings pitched and a 1.50 ERA. Davis (1-0) has pitched eight innings and posted a 1.13 ERA. Hughes, the only lefty of the trip, has pitched six innings and has a 1.50 ERA.

It is still early in the season, but to have three pitchers that can give the team a lot of innings and keep the ERA low is something Turner is looking forward to throughout the season.

"These guys are young, and that is good, because they are going to be able to do well for us beyond just this season," Turner said.

The Lions are off to a slower start offensively. Turner said the offensive statistics are not representative of how his team is doing because it is using wood bats.

The team has been using wood bats as much as possible this season, and offensive numbers decline a little when a college team does not use customary aluminum bats, especially early in the season.

"Our offensive numbers are not as high as they could be right now because of the wood bats, but the guys like using them, and it is really going to help them a lot in the long run," Turner said. "We are going to keep using wood as much as possible, too."

Leading the Lions in offense is senior third baseman Mark Keister. Keister is leading the team with four RBI and eight total bases, and he is slugging .421 in 19 at bats. Troy Lallemand, a junior middle infielder, is also among the leaders with a .429 batting average, .571 slugging percentage and a .556 on base percentage.

Another obstacle the team has to face is Mother Nature. It is not uncommon to lose a few games due to weather this early in the season. But Southern's schedule is set up in such a way it can make up missed games or play some non-scheduled games on off days in the early and middle parts of the season.

"Missing games throughout the season can hurt us," Turner said. "It is up to me to make sure the team plays as many of the 56 games we are allowed in a single season. That is why I set up the schedule to allow for some missed games early in the season."

The Lions will be back on the diamond, weather permitting, on Saturday and Sunday.

They will host Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville for two wood-bat doubleheaders. The first of the doubleheaders is scheduled to start at 12 p.m. on Saturday.